

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph before the paragraph titled BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION on page 1 of the specification:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119(a), this application claims the benefit of earlier filing date and right of priority to the Korean Application No. 2001-12638, filed on March 12, 2001, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 1, line 14 with the following paragraph:

A method of eight to fourteen modulation (EFM) (8/17 modulation) coding is provided as a method for recording digital data through encoding. A method of digital data modulation such as EFM or EFM plus is applied to record data, in particular, to an optical record medium or disk including CD, CD-R, CD-RW, DVD and so on.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 12, line 24 with the following paragraph:

Disclosed is a method of digital data conversion. The method ~~comprises the following steps of:~~ includes binding input digital data into unit blocks constituted by a plurality of bytes; modulation-coding each byte of the input data blocks by using a code conversion table; and allocating a merging bit in block unit for the modulation-coded input data in block unit.